

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES.

A Few Sensations Which in Times Past Have Agitated St. Louis.

A Globe-Democrat reporter yesterday had a brief interview with a prominent detective on the subject of mysterious disappearances, and was informed that they were more numerous than the public generally supposed. Cases were reported almost daily. Frequently the missing ones were found and returned to their parents and friends, but numerous cases occur where they are never heard of by the police, and it not infrequently happens that they are never heard of by their friends.

The detective said: "If the missing parties are connected with wealthy families a great noise and commotion is made in the newspapers, and public interest is worked up to a fever heat. If the missing belong to poor and obscure families a photograph appears, and the matter is soon forgotten. The parents or friends of such parties call at police headquarters regularly for several weeks, and failing to obtain a clue, cease to call, and nothing is heard of the matter again."

The following are some of the conspicuous disappearances which have been investigated by the police department of the city within recent years and attracted considerable public attention:

MISS NEWBOLD'S DISAPPEARANCE.

Probably one of the most mysterious disappearances was that of Miss Mary Newbold, a lady who came to St. Louis from Carrollton county, Mo., to attend the fair of 1871 and to receive medical treatment. She was accompanied by several friends and stopped at the St. Nicholas hotel, on Fourth street.

She disappeared on the second day after her arrival, and the only clue ever obtained concerning her was that she was seen to enter the residence of a quack doctor who then occupied apartments at 214 North Sixth street. This doctor, formerly residing at Kinross, Mo., and had quite a reputation. The police took her in charge at the time they were hunting for the missing woman, and subsequently arrested her on the charge of killing her mother at Kinross by poison. The body of her mother was exhumed, but was too badly decomposed to be examined. Numerous charges were subsequently preferred against her, and she was finally sent to the penitentiary. Miss Newbold was observed to enter her place one afternoon about 3 o'clock, and was never seen or heard of again. The whole police department worked on this case for weeks, even going to the extent of having the sewers examined.

IDA BUCKLEY'S ABDUCTION.

The abduction of Ida Buckley for several days was classed as a mysterious event, and threatened to baffle investigation. She was a member of the demi-monde, and lived at the Dew Drop Inn, a disreputable resort on Chisty avenue. About dusk one evening a spring wagon occupied by two men drove up to the inn. She was called out and lifted into the wagon, which rapidly drove away. A moment afterwards the same vehicle was seen driving along Franklin avenue, and the suppressed screams of the girl were heard by several parties.

The affair was reported to the police, who endeavored to trace the parties, without success. About a week afterwards the body of the girl was discovered in the snow in an orchard in St. Louis county with a bullet hole through her head. Two brothers named McNeary, grocers, doing business on Morgan street, who were uncles of the girl, were arrested on a charge of being connected with the murder. It was claimed that the vehicle which left the Dew Drop Inn was traced to their place of business. They underwent a trial in the criminal court, and were acquitted.

ANNIE REYBURN.

The next case which attracted the attention of the police was that of Annie Reyburn, whose parents reside in Illinois. She was traced to St. Louis and nothing more could be heard of her. A large reward was offered for her recovery, and the police were put upon the case. They made no progress and were about to give it up, when one day a Catholic priest walked into the detective's office at the Four Courts, and calling the chief of the detectives aside informed him that the girl was safe, but could not be turned over to her parents for about seven weeks, and at the same time exacting a promise from the detective not to tell her whereabouts until after that time, but to simply notify her parents that she was safe.

Her father was notified and speedily put in an appearance at the Four Courts. The detective explained that the young lady having an adventurous turn had engaged as a domestic at the house of an acquaintance, and that her time would not be out until seven weeks, when she would come home. The detective said he was obligated not to tell her whereabouts, but assured the old gentleman that she was safe. At the end of seven weeks the priest turned her over to the detective, who presented her to her father.

JUDGE MAYO.

The disappearance of Judge Mayo of Quincy, a prominent and well-known citizen of Illinois, was the next mysterious case placed in the hands of the police to unravel. Judge Mayo, who was well-known in St. Louis, visited the city and stopped at the Planters' house. He purchased a railroad ticket for the purpose of returning home, and was last seen at the Union depot. There all trace of him was lost. He was never heard of.

CAPTAIN DIX.

The disappearance of Captain Dix, a citizen of St. Louis and a prominent steamboat captain, was as mysterious as the preceding one. He disappeared from his home and was never heard of. No clue of any description was ever obtained concerning him.

ZOE WATKINS.

The disappearance of Miss Zoe Watkins from the residence of her uncle in this city, and her untimely end created considerable comment at the time. She disappeared and left no trace behind her. Her case was placed in the hands of the police, who followed numerous clues, and finally gave up the search. Her body was afterwards discovered in the Mississippi river. A medical examination showed that the unfortunate girl had suffered no ill treatment.

FANNY KIRKHOFFER.

Another recent disappearance was

that of a servant girl named Fanny Kirkhofter, in the employ of Captain Kirkhofter. She was employed in domestic work, and unexpectedly disappeared, leaving her effects at Mr. Haarstick's house. The police were notified as usual, and entered upon a general search. They finally abandoned the task as hopeless. The girl was afterwards found by an acquaintance at the residence of a colored woman in the neighborhood, where she gave birth to a colored child. It was afterwards discovered that she had been secreted in Mr. Haarstick's stable by a colored butler during the time that the police were hunting for her.

The disappearance of Miss Zerelda Garrison and her return home created much of a stir at the time. The list could be considerably enlarged, and many interesting features presented.

SLADE'S AT GAINESVILLE.

Where He Must Have Been Well Treated.

GAINESVILLE, Aug. 16.

To tell you all I know and think about Gainesville and her enterprising citizens, would require more space than you could well devote to me this week. Gainesville is emphatically the home of the cowman and they are preparing homes which would adorn any city. I am indebted to Mr. J. M. Huffington, a very pleasant gentleman, for a very pleasant drive over the city, and every few minutes as we came to some large structure in course of erection, he would explain that this or that cattleman was building and that it would cost anywhere between \$10,000 and \$40,000, for they were building them of all sizes and styles.

CATTLE SHIPMENTS.

The shipments of beef cattle from Gainesville this season have amounted to over four hundred cars and still the work goes on. The Missouri Pacific road this year is giving better rates than last year, and also giving shippers much shorter time than last, and thus winning golden opinions from all concerned. The company seems to realize that the custom is worth soliciting and is continually adding to its facilities for accommodating them.

CATTLE COMPANIES.

I will speak briefly of some of the large cattle and land firms that make their headquarters at Gainesville, though I do not wish it understood that there are no others there besides those I speak of, because I did not have an opportunity of getting acquainted with representatives of all these firms. This city is the home of the Cloud of the Mill Iron Cattle company of which Henry Warren is president, J. W. Wilson vice president, John Simpson secretary and treasurer and James Simpson general manager. These names are as familiar as household words in cattle circles, and every man in the company is noted for his ability and integrity. They own 280,000 acres of land and it is well stocked. Their capital stock is a cool million.

Then there is the Colorado, Chicago and Texas Land and Cattle Company whose office is at Gainesville and whose officers are F. J. Hall, president, L. B. Smith, vice president, C. R. Smith, secretary and treasurer, and A. Forsythe, general manager. Their authorized capital stock is \$3,500,000 and they have a paid up capital of \$800,000. They own vast tracts of land and large herds of cattle situated mostly in Cottle county.

The Stone Land and Cattle Company also has headquarters at Gainesville. J. W. Wilson is president of this company, J. W. Saca vice president and John H. Stone, secretary and treasurer. This company owns the famous Stone pasture near Wichita Falls and also large bodies of land and many cattle located further west. The names of the officers of this company are a guarantee of its stability and prosperity.

The Gainesville Land and Cattle Company also has its headquarters here. Its officers are: J. G. Witherspoon, president; F. J. Hall, vice-president; P. S. Witherspoon, treasurer; Frank Witherspoon, secretary, J. W. Montague, general manager. It has an authorized capital of \$1,000,000. Their range is principally in Hardeeman county where they have at least 25,000 head of cattle grazing. A glance at the names of the gentlemen comprising this company is a sufficient eulogy on its merits.

The Red River cattle Company is another flourishing and wealthy concern whose headquarters are here, and I am sorry that I neglected to obtain the names of all the gentlemen composing it. But when I say that Wm. Bourland is one of its officers, and Frank Houston another, and Mr. Sherwood still another, it is equivalent to saying that it is one of the wealthiest and most reliable concerns in the state.

THE RACE COURSE.

here is in excellent condition and there are quite a number of good horses already on hand. Among other parties who have blooded stock there, I noticed several belonging to Mr. Wilson and others whose owners I did not know. The fall races here will be the most exciting of any ever held in the state and it may be put down for a certainty that large sums of money will change hands here in November.

I am indebted to J. G. Witherspoon for a pleasant drive to the country during which we passed the elegant residence of J. W. Wilson, and near that of Mrs. C. C. Cannon, and inspected thoroughly the grounds of John Stone situated about four miles west of town. Mr. Stone has an elegant place, a fine house with all modern conveniences, a spacious park, with fish pond and shrubbery—in fact just such a place as such a big hearted liberal man as John Stone ought to have. John also has some fine blooded stock which are doing well and which are likely to make him big sums of money in the future. I cannot help saying that the citizens of Gainesville are more courteous and liberal than those of any place I have visited. Now there is J. G. Witherspoon. When you meet him away from home, you cannot help remarking that he is a pleasant, affable gentleman but meet him at Gainesville and he is the prince of courtiers. I shall not soon forget his kindness to me any way. I might say much more about this prosperous city and yet leave much unsaid, but as I write entirely without notes no one can complain if I forget many interesting things. I'll go back there again however and then I'll make amends for what I have overlooked this time.

I want to say however

that Gainesville has a good hotel. The Lindsay is hard to beat.

SLADE.

Passengers for Louisville will please remember that the Ohio & Mississippi railway is the only line from St. Louis to Louisville under one management, that the line by this route is hours the quickest, that there is no change of cars, that no other route furnishes and that the Ohio & Mississippi railway is the popular route as demonstrated by the fact that ninety-nine out of every hundred passengers go by the Ohio & Mississippi railroad. Rates always as low as by inferior lines.

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